

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 COME-00

TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 IO-10 L-03 STR-04 OPIC-03

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4696

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PO, EC

SUBJ: EC AID TO PORTUGAL

REF: (A) LISBON 5983 (NOTAL)

(B) LISBON 6220 (NOTAL)

1. EC ECONOMIC MISSION HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP IN LISBON ON
OCTOBER 20 AND 21 (GOP DELEGATION HEADED BY VASCO VIEIRA
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DE ALMEIDA) REGARDING RECENTLY-ANNOUNCED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AS

WELL AS PROVISIONS OF 1972 EC/PORTUGAL TRADE AGREEMENT.

2. FOLLOWING DECISIONS WERE ANNOUNCED AT JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE
AT END OF MEETINGS:

- A) CREATION OF A JOINT COMMISSION TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR
UTILIZATION OF THE PROJECT ASSISTANCE ANNOUNCED TWO WEEKS AGO.
- B) EC TO COORDINATE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE OF EC COUNTRIES.
- C) EC WILL "PARTICIPATE" IN MEASURES TO ASSIST ANGOLAN
REFUGEES AND COORDINATE BILATRAL EFFORTS.
- D) EC WILL SUPPORT PORTUGAL IN ITS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS.
- E) BEFORE THE END OF 1975, DISCUSSIONS WILL BEGIN ABOUT RE-
NEGOTIATION OF THE EC/PORTUGUESE TRADE AGREEMENT.

3. BOTH DELEGATIONS EMPHASIZED THE RAPIDITY WITH WHICH THIS
FOLLOW-UP MEETING WAS HELD. TECHNICAL MEETING IS TO BE HELD IN
LUXEMBOURG IN EARLY NOVEMBER TO PREPARE FOR THE FIRST FORMAL
MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMISSION IN BRUSSELS AT THE END OF
NOVEMBER.

4. COMMENT: THE GOP PART OF THE JOINT COMMISSION APPEARS TO
BE THE SAME GROUP WHICH WILL PARTICIPATE WITH THE U.S.
(REF B). VASCO VIEIRA DE ALMEIDA, WELL-KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY AND A
COMPETENT ECONOMIST, IS THE KEY FIGURE IN THE DISCUSSIONS
BOTH WITH THE EC AND THE U.S.

5. ACCORDING TO AN EC EMBASSY (ITALY), THE MEETING WAS A PURE-
LY TECHNICAL ONE. WHILE PORTUGUESE DEVELOPMENTAL PRIORITIES
WERE DISCUSSED IN GENERAL, SPECIFIC PROJECTS WERE NOT PRESENTED
FOR CONSIDERATION. THE VI GOVERNMENT'S EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PLAN,
WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 25, MAY SHED SOME
LIGHT ON GOP'S PRIORITY PROJECTS. THE EMBASSY HAS HEARD THAT
THE CNP ETHYLENE PLANT, FOR WHICH U.S. AND GERMAN FIRMS ARE
BIDDING, IS ELIGIBLE FOR EC CONCESSIONAL FINANCING, WHICH COULD
TILT THE AWARE TO THE GERMAN FIRM.
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